



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety
and Inspection
Service

Washington, D.C.
20250

FEB 6 2002

Dr. Piotr Kolodziej
Chief Veterinary Officer
Veterinary Inspection
General Veterinary Inspectorate
Republic of Poland
30 Wspolna Street
00-930 Warsaw, Poland

Dear Dr. Kolodziej:

Enclosed is a copy of the Final report of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) April 11-30, 2001, audit of Poland's meat inspection system. We received your December 4, 2001 letter providing comments on the Draft Final report of the same audit, and incorporated this letter into the Final report as Attachment "G."

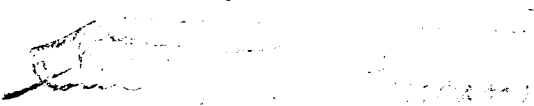
During this audit, the FSIS auditor reported that the Polish meat inspection system was essentially meeting U.S. import requirements. However, the FSIS auditor did raise concerns regarding the following two deficiencies:

- Establishments were not meeting the HACCP requirement for *Listeria monocytogenes* in ready-to-eat products; and
- Testing of generic *Escherichia coli* (*E.coli*) was being performed by government laboratories instead of private laboratories as stated in Polish inspection documents previously submitted to FSIS.

In your December 4, 2001 letter, you advised FSIS that these deficiencies and other audit findings have been properly addressed. Accordingly, we appreciate your thorough review of the FSIS audit findings and the corrective actions taken to ensure that meat products exported to the United States meet U.S. import requirements.

If you have any questions regarding the FSIS audit or need additional information, please contact me by telephone at (202) 720-3781 or by facsimile at (202) 690-4040. You may also reach me by email at (sally.stratmoen@fsis.usda.gov).

Sincerely,



Sally Stratmoen, Chief
Equivalence Section
International Policy Staff
Office of Policy, Program Development
and Evaluation

Enclosure

cc:

Andrzej Ilczuk, Economic Counselor, Embassy of Poland
Wayne Molstad, Agriculture Counselor, American Embassy, Warsaw
Andrew Burst, FAS Area Officer
John Prucha, ADA, OPPDE, FSIS
Amy Winton, State Department
Donald Smart, Director, Review Staff
Sally Stratmoen, Chief, ES, IPS
Richard Brown, ES, IPS, FSIS
Country File (FY 2001 Audit)

FSIS:OPPDE:IPD:EPB:SMcdermott:bw:2/6/03:202-720-6400:Poland Fnl rpt ltr 1-02.doc